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of Business Development

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Development Branch

CA2 ALPB 1970T52
Survey of Tofield.



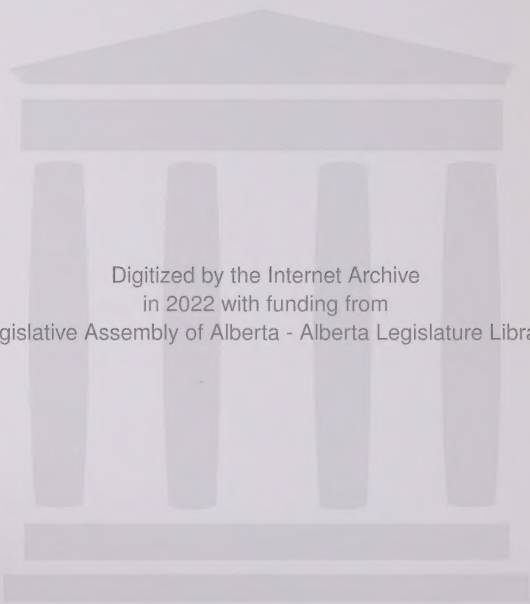
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GOVERNMENT OF
THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA



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Town of Tofield

August, 1970

1. LOCATION

Section 1-51-19-W4 in Census Division No. 11. This location is 40 miles East and South of Edmonton on Highway No. 14 and on the Canadian National Railway Transcontinental line.

2. ALTITUDE

2280 feet Latitude 53/22 Longitude 112/40

3. TEMPERATURE

Mean summer temperature 56 degrees F.

Mean winter temperature 20 degrees F.

Average yearly temperature 35 degrees F.

4. RAINFALL

Average yearly rainfall 11.56 inches.

Average yearly snowfall 34.5 inches.

Total yearly precipitation 15.1 inches.

5. GEOLOGY

The rocks underlying the glacial deposits in the Tofield area are sandstone and sandy shale that were deposited in the large fresh water lakes which covered the region in an age termed "Upper Cretaceous" by the geological



A view of a portion of the well tended main street.

time scale. These sediments which are called the "Edmonton Formation" are coal bearing.

6. SOIL

The Tofield district lies on a Black Soil area. A description of this soil zone follows:

Profile

The normal profile has a black to very dark brown surface (A) horizon that averages about 12 - 14 inches in depth. The more compact (B) horizon is brown to dark brown and the lime layer (BCA) is usually found at 30 to 40 inches below the surface.

7. HISTORY

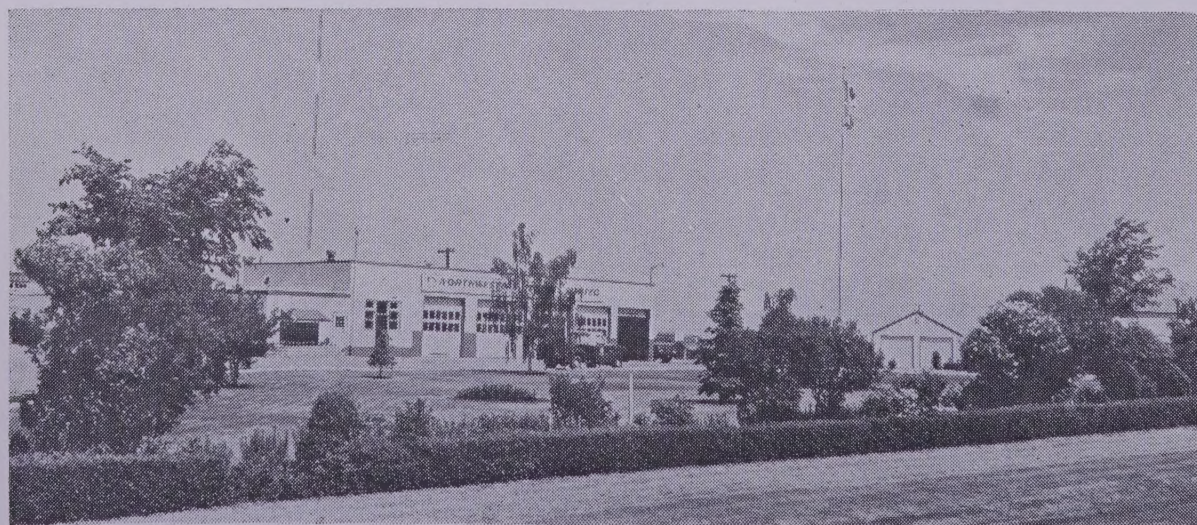
In 1893 Government surveyors surveyed land around Beaverhill Lakes. A Post Office was established named Tofield, in honour of Dr. Tofield, pioneer doctor of the district. The town was situated one mile east of the present site on the farm now owned by John Rempel. The surviving daughter of Dr. Tofield, Mrs. Edith Rogers, still resides in Tofield.

The first postmaster was George Cookson Sr. who received a salary of \$112 per annum.

In 1896 the first school was opened in Tofield and Miss Harriet McCallum was the teacher.

In 1906 the Grand Trunk Railway Main Line was surveyed and on June 30, 1909 the steel came to Tofield. This great milestone in Tofield's history was celebrated on Dominion Day. The first passenger train passed through Tofield from Winnipeg to Edmonton on August 13, 1909.

In 1907 Messrs. Crafts, Lee and Gallinger of Edmonton surveyed the N.E. quarter of Section 1, Range 51, Township 19, West of the 4th adjoining the land located by the Grand Trunk Railway for the Townsite and offered free lots to people who would settle in the town and build on the lots. Thirty



Utility companies are among the well established businesses in Tofield.

business places, including the Merchants Bank (now the Bank of Montreal), were established and on September 9, 1907 Tofield was incorporated as a Village.

The Village of Tofield No. 2 was located on the site of the present school.

In 1908 the present site of Tofield was surveyed and the stores and houses were moved down near the railway station, to become Tofield No. 3—this time a permanent location. Incorporation as a Town was accomplished in October, 1909. The first Town Council was headed by J. O. Letourneau, Mayor and the Councillors were M. W. Ferguson, R. E. Emery, A. F. Fugl, J. B. Harper, A. Maxwell and A. Lamoureux with A. J. H. McCauley as Secretary Treasurer.

Contributing to Tofield's growth have been the coal mines that were opened between 1905 and 1910. The Tofield Coal Mine owned by Claude Gallinger Sr., was opened in 1905 and reached a peak output of 135,000 tons per year. During the peak years there were 125 men on the payroll.

In the 1900's two manufacturing plants were in operation, a foundry and a brickyard.

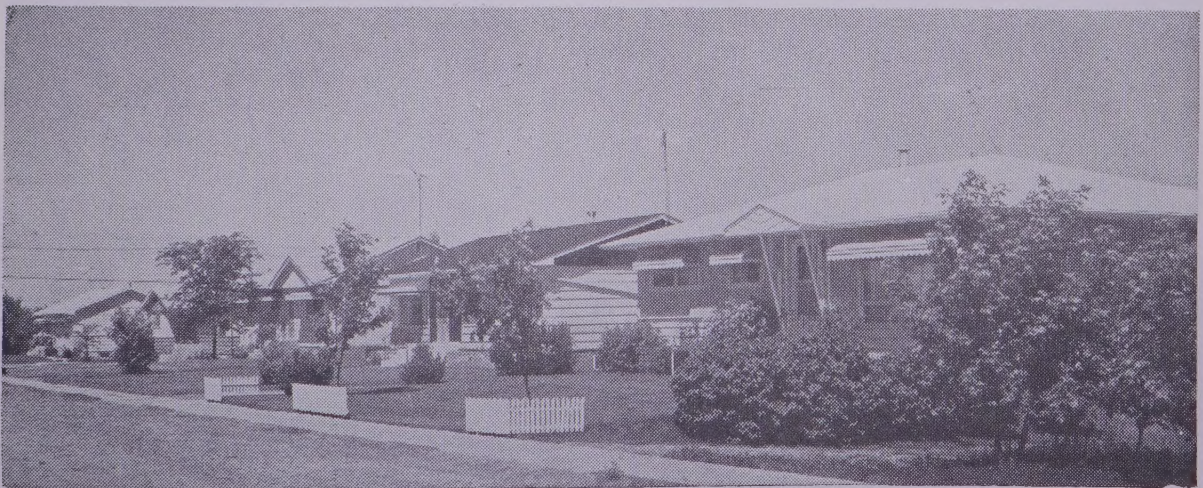
During 1912 gas was discovered in the town.

In 1929 a fire levelled a whole business block on the east side of the Main Street and in 1935 the west side suffered a similar fate. In 1955 the Community Memorial Hall was also destroyed by fire.

The Tofield Standard weekly paper was first published by R. N. Whillans in 1907 and ran for several years, and in 1918 Mr. W. Worton published the "Tofield Mercury" until his death in 1951. It was thereafter published by Clifford Patterson and is now published by the Camrose Canadian.

In 1929 the Calgary Power Co. was given a franchise to supply electricity, previously supplied by a local plant operated by M. C. Hammond.

In 1923 Northwestern Utilities Ltd. started to supply the town with natural gas.



Tofield residential areas are generally bright and filled with modern attractive homes.

In 1893 the first Anglican Church was built in Tofield and the present Anglican church was built in 1912, with the altar rails and pews from the original church.

In 1943 the Baptist Church was built and in 1944 the Greek Catholic Church was built. The first mass was celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church on July 19th, 1920.

In 1908 the Bardo Lutheran Church was built and destroyed by fire in 1921 and again in 1967, and is now replaced by a new edifice.

The Mennonite Brethren Church was built in the Lindbrook district in 1940 and now they have a new church situated on Highway 14 built in the late '60's.

The United Church of Canada was built in 1904 and moved to Tofield in 1908 and then to the present site in 1919. This old church is used as the Masonic Lodge and a new United Church has been built.

The Tofield Municipal Hospital was built in 1947.

The original inhabitants of the district were the Cree Indians. Their enemies the Blackfoot used to raid the Cree country south of the Beaverhill Lakes, and in 1860 or 1862 Chief Ketchamac came from Fort Pitt with 400 braves and joined the Crees and, after obtaining food by killing the buffalo that roamed around the lake, they journeyed to Wetaskiwin via Camrose and fought the Blackfoot and captured a large amount of booty including many ponies and squaws. The Chief spent his last years here and is buried on the bank of the Ketchamac Creek.

8. LIVING CONDITIONS

The Town of Tofield located in a mixed farming district has a population of 1,035. The many businesses provide for a trading area of 3,500 people. There is room for new business opportunities and the town is ideally located for industry.



Bright new office and store structures flank the town's community centre.

About 75 per cent of the homes are owner-occupied and the majority rent for roughly \$85 per month.

There is a keen community spirit in sports, both winter and summer. The town boasts a new four sheet artificial ice curling rink and summer sports are supplemented with an active Gymkhana Club and a 9-hole golf course.

The Chamber of Commerce, the Community League and various service clubs and the town council work for the betterment of the community.

Educational facilities are available for Grades 1 to 12 with optional subjects. There are 27 teachers and 571 students.

Eight churches serve the Community's spiritual needs.

There is an excellent library.

Financial facilities are provided by the Bank of Montreal and an Agency of the Treasury Branch.

Transportation is available by rail or bus.

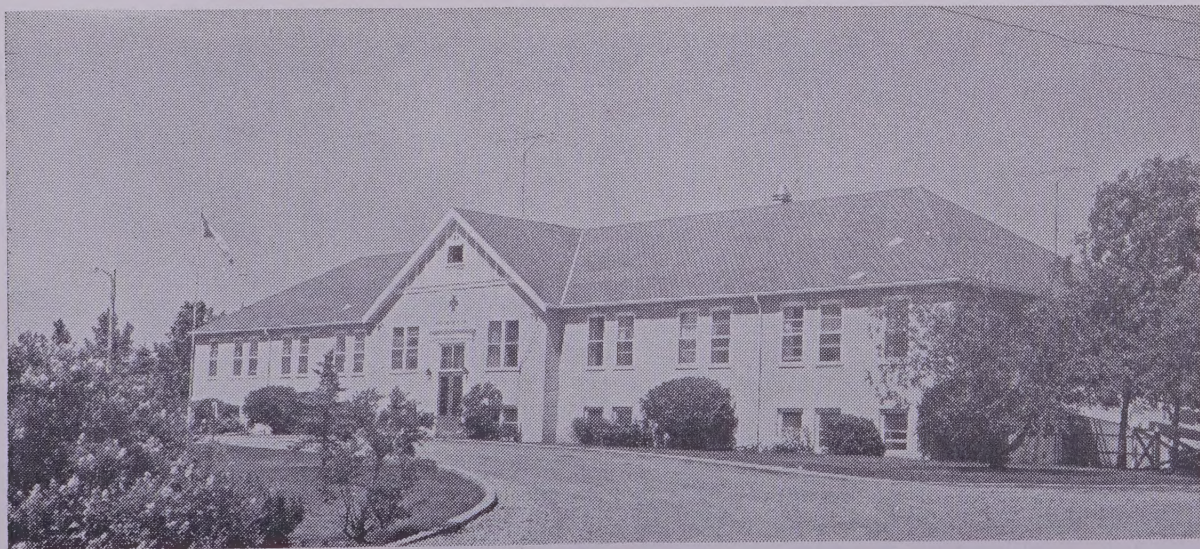
A 36-bed hospital and a clinic with three resident doctors provide excellent medical facilities.

9. ADMINISTRATION

Tofield has town status and is governed by a town council consisting of seven elected members — one mayor and six councillors. A Secretary Treasurer administers the affairs of the Town in accordance with the policies set by the Council.

10. LAWS AND REGULATIONS

National building code enforced by the Town Building Inspector. An electrical code conforms with the Alberta Electrical Protection Act and Alberta Public Health Regulations govern the sanitary by-laws. Garbage is collected weekly from all residential dwellings. The town is policed by the Royal



Tofields hospital provides excellent medical service to a wide district.

Canadian Mounted Police and the detachment consists of a Corporal and three Constables.

11. FIRE PROTECTION

A fire brigade consists of 12 volunteer firemen. Equipment consists of two fire engines and a new fire engine will be purchased in 1970. There are 12 hydrants conveniently located throughout the residential and commercial areas.

12. TAX STRUCTURE

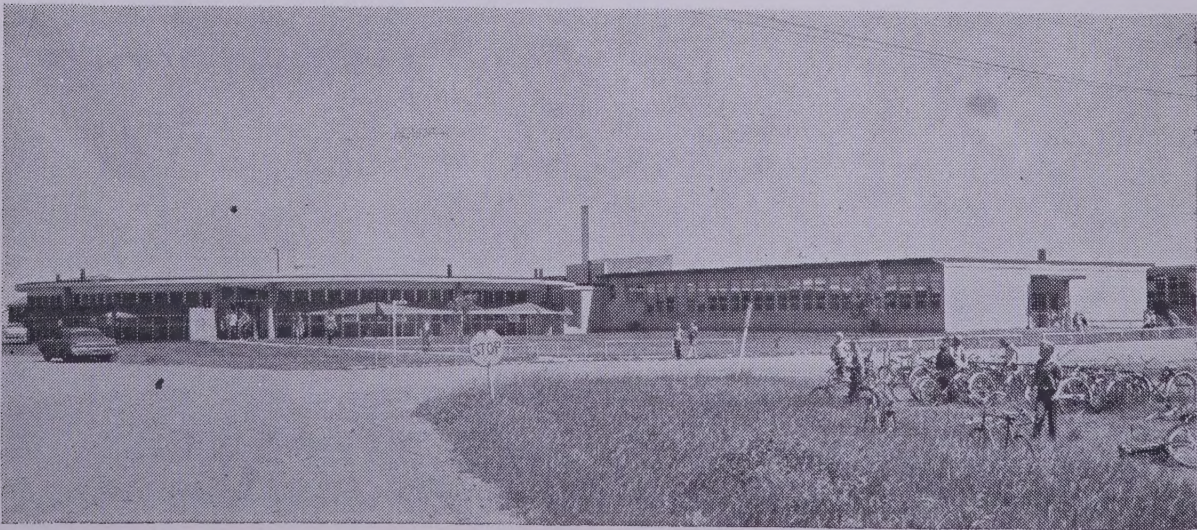
	1970 NET ASSESSMENT
Land	\$198,740
Buildings - Residences	741,740
- Other buildings	325,990
A.G.T.	8,430
Power	15,950
Gas Lines	57,850
Total Assessment	\$1,348,700

13. AREAS

Area of Town	1,308 acres
Streets (Sidewalks) -	
Roads	20.5 miles gravel
Public Parks and Playgrounds	10 acres

14. SEWER AND WATER MAIN MILEAGE

Sanitary 3.18 miles. Water 4.2 miles.



Students of town and district are served by large modern, well staffed schools.

15. POWER

Supplied by Calgary Power.

Domestic rates: Monthly minimum Gross \$2.60; Net \$2.30.

16. WATER

Water for the town is obtained from the dam and is fit for human consumption.

Rates

\$5.00 min. for first 4,000 gallons.

\$1.00 per 1,000 gals. to 50,000.

Over 50,000 gals, 70 cents per 1,000 gals.

17. GAS

Natural gas is supplied by the Northwestern Utilities Ltd.

Rates

First 20 therms or less \$3.00. All additional therms 3.5c per therm.

18. L.P. GAS

This is available from a local distributor.

19. DIESEL FUEL

There are three bulk distributors of diesel fuel and bulk oil products.

20. COAL

Very little coal is used; however there are a few commercial deposits within the immediate area.

21. LOCAL RESOURCES

Agricultural products.

22. GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Treasury Branch Agency. Motor Vehicles Branch, Department of Highways and Transport.

23. HEALTH SERVICES

The 36-bed Tofield Municipal Hospital is administered by a locally appointed Board and operated by an administrator and staff. The Vegreville Health Unit provides a District Nurse. There are three resident doctors and one drug store.

24. PROFESSIONAL AND SKILLED PERSONAL SERVICES

Two lawyers are here once a week from Edmonton.

Two beauty parlours and one barber shop.

25. TRANSPORTATION

Express Services daily.

Trucking service tri-weekly.

Canadian Coachways daily from Tofield to Edmonton.

26. NEWSPAPERS

Tofield Mercury - weekly.

27. COMMUNICATIONS

Alberta Government Telephones - all services.

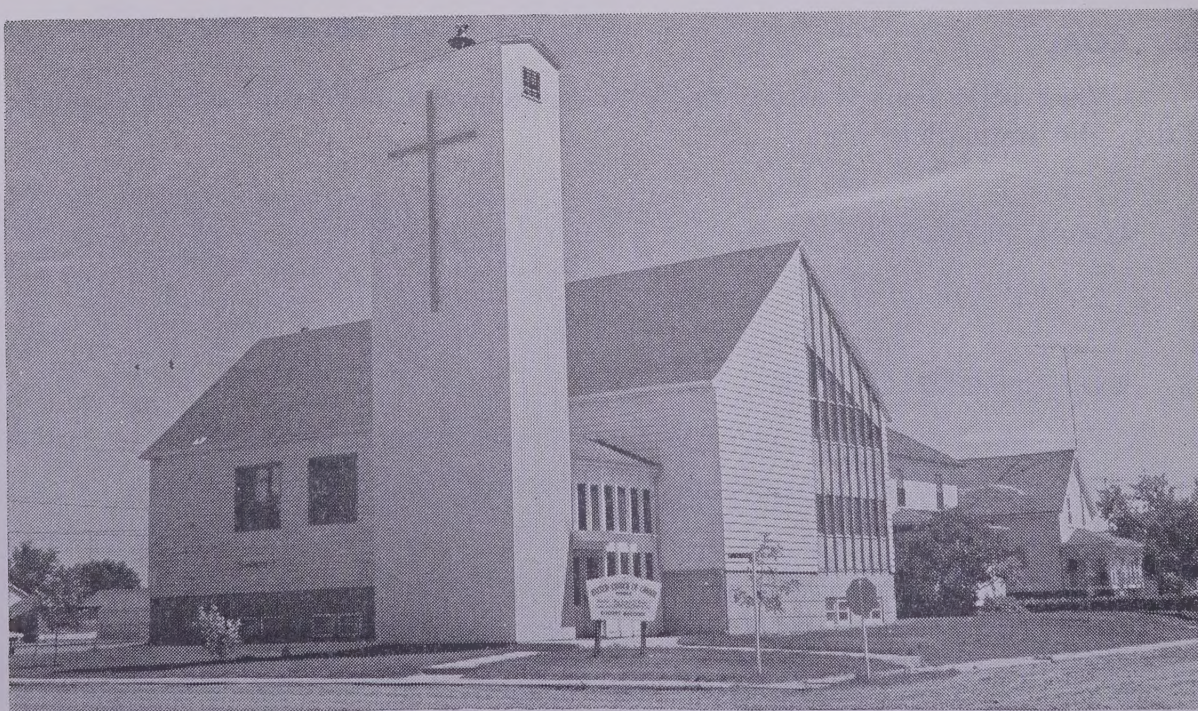
Post Office. All Edmonton radio and TV stations.

28. FINANCIAL FACILITIES

Bank of Montreal. Treasury Branch Agency.

29. HOTEL

Royal Alexandra Hotel - 22 rooms. Fully licensed.



Several fine churches, such as this United Church, serve the religious needs of the community.

30. MOTELS

Nil.

31. CHURCHES

Anglican, United, Lutheran, Mennonite and Mennonite Brethren, Baptist, Roman Catholic and Greek Catholic.

32. LODGES

Masons. Eastern Star.

33. SERVICE CLUBS

Chamber of Commerce. Canadian Legion. Lions Club. Tofield Community League.

34. SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Golf Club, Curling Club, Recreation Board, Gun Club, Historical Society.

35. EDUCATION

Schools in Tofield are administered by the County of Beaver No. 9. Elementary school teaching Grades 1 to 6 and High School 7 to 12.

36. THEATRES AND HALLS

Tofield Legion Hall. Masonic Hall. Community Hall.

37. CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The Public Library is a community library supported by the Town with grants from the Provincial Government under the Library Act. It is open two days per week.



A new arena and large spacious grounds provide ample recreational space for the district fairs.

38. YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Girls - Girl Guides, Explorers.

Boys - Scouts and Cubs, 4 H Club, Luther League, Mennonite Wayfarers and Young Peoples.

39. SPORTS

Baseball, hockey and football at junior and senior level, golf and curling.

Facilities

Covered curling rink with four sheets of artificial ice, nine hole golf course. Tennis court under construction by the Recreation Board. Baseball diamond. Rainbow trout may be caught at the Black Nugget Coalpits, and jackfish at Hastings Lake. Boating and water skiing. Upland game birds and pheasants are plentiful in the area and deer hunting is excellent. Beaverhill Lake is renowned for the geese and waterfowl as it is on the flyway from the North. Very popular with the birdwatchers.

40. FAIRS

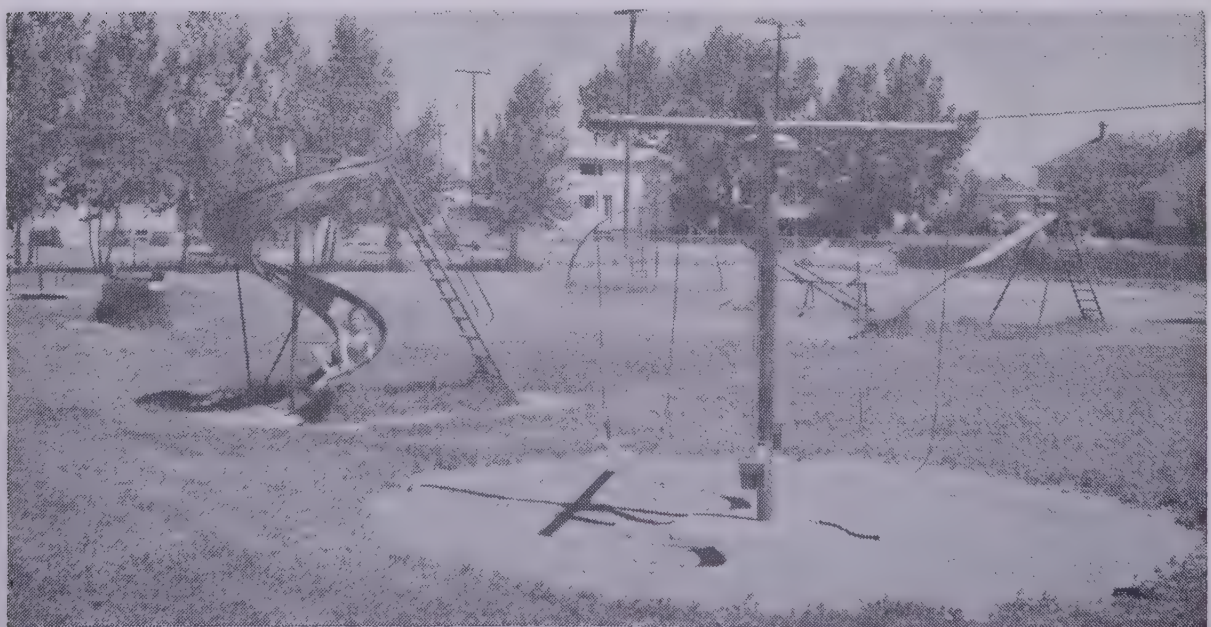
July 1st.

41. HISTORICAL SITES

Lions Museum and Historical Society. Museum.

42. CO-OPERATIVES

Tofield Co-op. U.F.A.



Playgrounds like these attract the many youngsters of the town.

43. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Business & Industry	No.		
Bakery	1	Furniture Store	1
Bank	1	Garages & Service Stations	8
Barber	1	Grocery Stores	3
Beauty Parlours	2	Hardware	3
Building Contractors	2	Hotel	1
Building Supplies	1	Implement Dealers	3
Bulk Oil Agents	5	Insurance Agents	4
Butchers	2	Laundromat	1
Cafes	2	Lawyers, Visiting	2
Car Dealers	2	Lumber Sales	1
Cartage Delivery	1	Meat Markets	2
Clothing, Men & Women	2	Medical Clinic	MDs 3
Cleaners	1	Plumbers	2
Creamery	1	Propane Sales	1
Doctors	3	Real Estate	1
Drug Store	1	Stock Hauler	1
Dry Goods	3	Tinsmith	1
Electrical Contractors	2	Trucking Firm	1
Elevators	3	Treasury Branch Agency	1
Feed Mill	1	TV Repairs	1
Fertilizer Dealers	4		

44. SITES

There are at any given time at least 50 fully serviced residential lots available either from the Town or private owners. Commercial lots are available at reasonable cost and industrial sites available, either serviced or unserviced and a few miles of track frontage available.

45. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

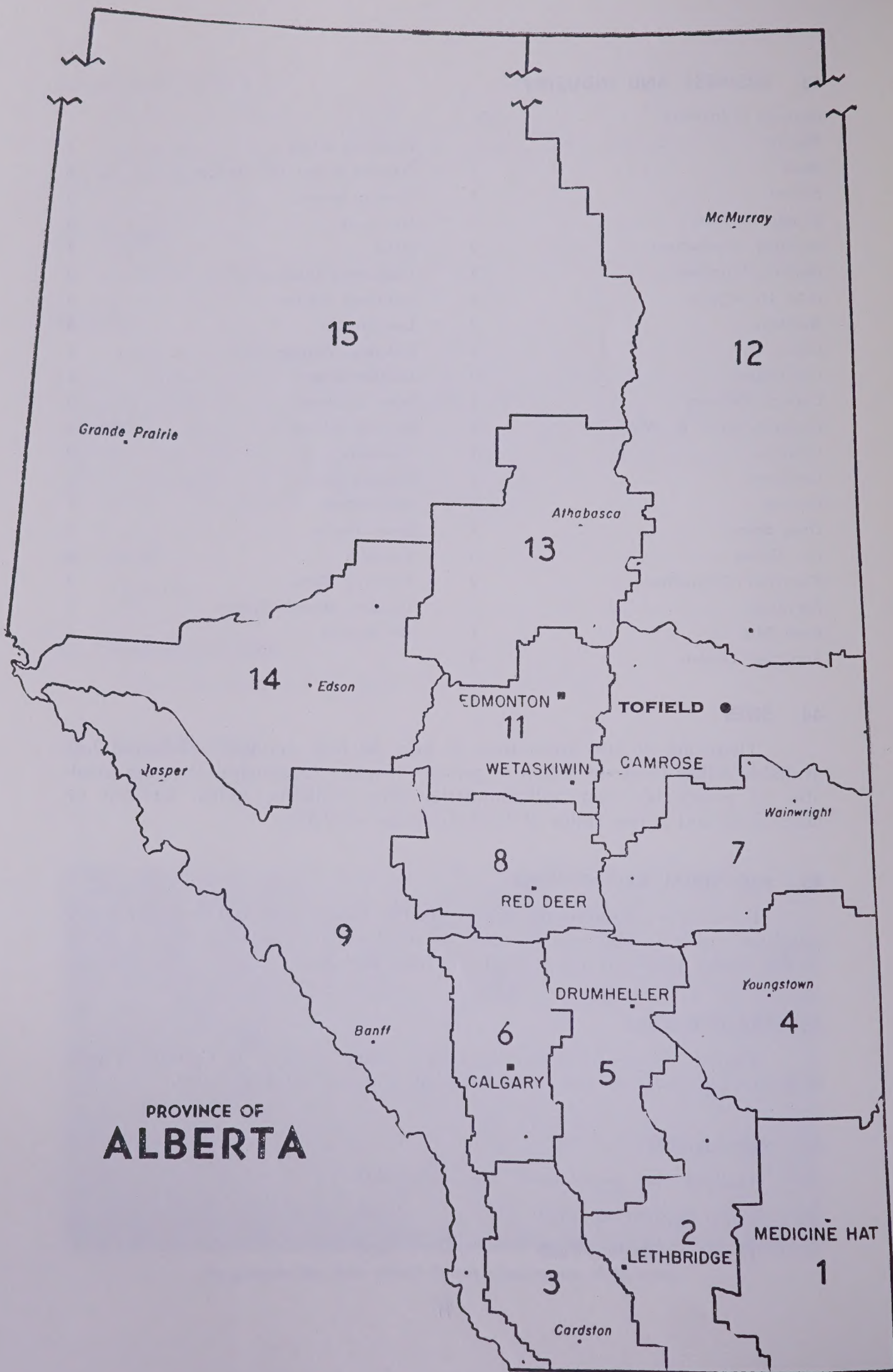
Farming is an important industry in the Tofield area and there are many purebred cattle in the area. Master Farm Family awards have been given to the Kallal Hereford Ranch and the Melwood Farm.

46. TRADING AREA

Tofield covers a large trading area - South 28 miles to Camrose; North to Vegreville; West 50 miles to Edmonton; East 12 miles to Ryley.

47. POPULATION

Trading area population	5,000
Town population, 1970	1,035
Town population, 1956	930



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